

Market News

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Recycling Market Development Program

Survey Identifies Support

The TNRCC CLEAN TEXAS 2000 program recently released the results of a survey conducted in 1995 to measure environmental attitudes and behaviors. The purpose of the survey was to compare results against a similar survey conducted in 1993 and to gauge the participation in environmental activities across the state. The telephone survey of 808 adult Texans revealed a number of encouraging facts about interest and participation in recycling programs.

While interest is high for both residential and workplace recycling programs, limited access to programs seems to be the biggest obstacle to participation. Nearly all Texans (93 percent) say they are concerned about environmental pollution and 60 percent identify strongly with environmental responsibility. Three-quarters of respondents said they recycle more now than they did a year ago. Though curbside recycling programs currently serve about 17 percent of the state's population, 72 percent of those surveyed indicated that they would be willing to pay an additional \$1 to \$2 per month for curbside recycling.

Support for recycling is especially strong in the workplace. Respondents who have organized recycling programs at work, participate in those programs. However, only 34 percent of the respondents have organized programs at their place of employment.

The results of this survey should go a long way to assist decision-makers in both public and private-sector organizations in finding support for starting or expanding recycling programs. For a copy of the survey results, call 512/239-3159.

Market News is produced by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program. For more information about items in this newsletter, contact us at 512/239-6750.

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Seminar on Use of Tire Shreds

A seminar on uses of shredded tires is scheduled for March 12, 1996 in Arlington. Co-sponsored by TNRCC, Texas SWANA, Scrap Tire Management Council and Texas TDRA, the seminar will cover a variety of topics on regulations and use of tire shreds in landfill applications, such as leachate collection systems, protective covers, and liners. Speakers will include state officials from Texas and other states that have addressed the use of tire shreds in landfill design, and industry experts from around the country. The seminar will be held at the La Quinta Conference Center in Arlington. For registration information, contact Pam Negrini at 512/239-0059. For general information about the seminar, contact Marilee Montana at 512/239-2564.

Upcoming Recycling Events

Date	Event	Location	Number
Feb. 15-16	Border Workshop	Piedras Negras	512/239-6013
Feb. 20	School Workshop	Abilene	512/239-6780
Feb. 21	Workplace Workshop	Abilene	512/239-6780
Feb. 22	School Workshop	San Angelo	512/239-6780
Mar 12	Tire Shreds Seminar	Arlington	512/239-0059
Mar 19-20	Buying into the Loop	Dallas	800/367-8272
Mar 27-28	Military Conference	Ft. Hood	512/239-6816
April 4	School Workshop	Wichita Falls	512/239-6780
April 30	School Workshop	Amarillo	512/239-6780
May 1	School Workshop	Lubbock	512/239-6780
May 1-3	Environmental Trade Fair	Austin	512/239-6322
May 2	Environmental Awards	Austin	512/239-3100
May 6-8	Recycling Coalition of Texas Network 96	San Antonio	512/239-6316
June	Scrap Tire Conference	Austin	512/239-0059

MARKET NEWS SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Market News is a monthly newsletter bringing you the latest and best information available on markets for recovered materials. Each month, Market News features articles about specific materials, highlighting individual market success stories and keeping you abreast of market trends.

State law prohibits agencies from continuing to send newsletters unless we receive an annual renewal form. If you would like to continue receiving a free copy of Market News, please return this renewal form. If your renewal form is not received by March 31, 1996, you will be removed from the mailing list. Your address is on the reverse side, so review the address and mark any revisions. Clip this form on the dashed line and return to:

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Recycling Section
Attn: Heidi Wittenborn, MC 114
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

If you have already mailed your renewal form, please disregard this notice.

To be added to the mailing list of the Texas Recycler, TNRCC's quarterly recycling newsletter, check here. 



Spotlight on: Inteplast Group

Inteplast, an affiliate of Formosa Plastics Corporation, has been manufacturing plastic film in Lolita, Texas (east of Victoria) since 1991. The Inteplast Group manufactures a wide variety of plastic products ranging from bags and packaging film, to indoor structures. In 1995, Inteplast inaugurated its state of the art post-consumer recycling plant which employs 52 people and processes approximately 32 million pounds of post-consumer plastics per year and converting them into pellets. The pellets are sold within the Inteplast complex and on the open market. The plant collects recovered HDPE, LDPE, LLDPE and PP plastics from throughout the United States and Mexico. "Inteplast is committed and dedicated to cleaning up the environment through our recycling efforts," says Victor Jarnegan, plant manager for the Post Consumer Recycling plant. For more information call 512/874-3400.

OCC Price History

The January issue of Market News included several charts showing paper prices for 1995. The prices for most paper grades reached record highs in the first half of the year, with sharp declines in the second half of 1995. After seeing these charts, several readers asked about historical trends for recovered paper prices. The chart below shows the high range end-market price for Old Corrugated Containers (OCC) as reported by national trade publications (Official Board Markets and Miller Freeman Inc.) from 1970 to 1995. The prices for 1995 on this 25 year chart are from Texas Market Prices. The prices on the 25 year chart are not adjusted for inflation, so \$50/ton prices in the early 1970s are not comparable to the same price 25 years later. The chart is effective in demonstrating the ups and downs of recovered paper prices. Prices peaked in 1974 and again in 1987, but the market endured a lengthy valley that finally ended with the record peaks of 1994 and 1995.

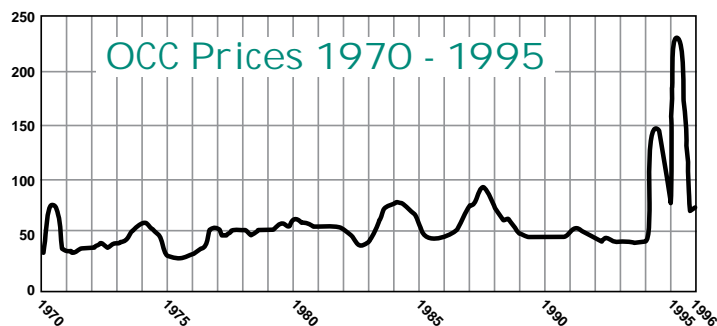
Prices increased \$20 to \$25/ton in January 1996 due to increased exports and severe winter weather in the eastern U.S. which caused shortages due to transportation difficulties; however, prices are not expected to increase significantly in the next few months.

Texas Market Prices

(for the week of January 22, 1996)

Material		Processor Price	End-User Price
Aluminum	UBC (cans)	\$0.32 - 0.45/lb ↓	\$0.56 - 0.61/lb ↑
Glass	Flint	0 - 30/ton —	50 - 57/ton —
	Amber	0 - 30/ton —	40 - 57/ton —
	Green	0 - 15/ton —	15/ton —
Paper	OCC (cardboard)	15 - 25/ton ↑	45 - 75/ton ↑
	ONP (newspaper)	5 - 20/ton —	25 - 40/ton ↓
	White Ledger	60 - 100/ton —	140 - 150/ton —
	Mixed Paper	0 - 4/ton —	15 - 20/ton —
	Mixed Office Ledger	30 - 60/ton —	50 - 100/ton ↓
	Computer Print-out	140 - 190/ton —	220 - 250/ton —
Plastic	PET (mixed colors)	0 —	.16 - .18/lb —
	HDPE (natural)	0 —	0.08/lb —
	HDPE (mixed colors)	0 —	0.06/lb —
Steel	Steel Cans	0 - 30/ton ↑	100/ton ↑

The prices listed above are compiled by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program and are for reference only. These prices are not firm quotes. TNRCC obtained pricing information from buyers within each category and developed a pricing range. "Processors" include dealers, brokers, scrap yards and collection centers; whereas, "end-users" include mills and plants. Processor prices are for delivered material in metropolitan areas of the state and do not reflect the value of any collection services. End-user prices, except for glass, are for baled material in truckload quantity, f.o.b. seller's dock. The difference between processor and end-user prices is indicative of the value added by separating, baling or otherwise preparing materials to meet end-market specifications. Actual prices paid by end-users will depend on quality, quantity and transportation requirements. Arrows indicate direction of change from previous month.



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